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Of the forty-eight who signed the Articles of Confederation on the 9th of July, 1788, only four had more than one name. Of the thirty-six speakers of the House during the first half century of the nation's existence, only twelve had more than one name. Of the five Chief Justices during the same period none had more than one name. (Now that there is a vacancy let double-named aspirants beware.) Of the thirty-one Associate Justices during the same period only five had more than one name. Of the eighteen Secretaries of State only two had middle names; of the eighteen Secretaries of the Treasury, only eight; of the twenty-six Secretaries of War, only nine; of the twenty-one Secretaries of the Navy, only eight.

We have had twenty-two presidents during our national existence. Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, Lincoln, Johnson, and Cleveland all entered into office without the unnecessary luggage of a middle name. These sum up fifteen out of the twenty-two, and all the "two-termers" are in the list except one (U. S. Grant). Under such circumstances, now that we approach a Presidential election is it not pertinent to inquire, "What's in a name?"

As far as I have been able to ascertain, only five ex-Senators became President: John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, James Buchanan—all of one name, except the ubiquitous Adams, who seems to have held every office of note in the country except the Chief Justiceship. As Grover Cleveland will be the Democratic nominee, it is well for the Republicans to remember that it seems to be an unwritten law that no Senator (particularly if he has a middle name) can be elected; and so, if they will take a Senator to test the rule, they have few to choose from. There is John Sherman, or Philetus Sawyer, or E. Hale, or J. Chace, or perhaps one or two more.

Is there not something in a name? Must not there be some influence, which we know not of, which, under the operation of cause and effect, produces such results as are cited above. It is true that there are instances of great men whose names are long and whose achievements are famous, but are they not few compared with the number of great men with single names?

PETER J. OTEY.

II.

OUR HOLD ON CUBA.

Do we want Cuba? Do we want her as an integral part of the Nation? Do we want her as a colonial possession? I think the unanimous voice of the country would answer "No!" to both interrogatories. But is there not another species of ownership which will confer upon us all the advantages which would accrue from annexation without hampering us with the responsibilities springing out of annexation? It seems to me that Mother Britain has taught us how to own Cuba without owning it—how to control Cuba without governing it—how to reap all benefits of Cuban possession without the expense and responsibilities of Cuban protection.

Over the savage and semi-civilized tribes and nations which the commercial and religious zeal of the subjects of Victoria have subjugated to British influence, Great Britain, as a nation, has established what she calls "Commercial Supremacy." In plain language, she permits these weaker races to buy their rum, their Brummagem idols, and their scanty needs of dry-goods, only from herself, and prohibits them—not by force, but by the "laws of trade"—from disposing of their native products in markets other than those controlled by Englishmen.

To be sure, we have no American opium that we need market at the points of bayonets or the muzzles of guns, upon unwilling and inoffensive Cubans; but, inasmuch as we improved upon the British Constitution, so likewise we may improve

on the methods of the British tradesman. In the easiest and simplest manner possible, we can place Cuba at our mercy, by simply shutting her sugar out of American markets. And we can do this without over-taxing the energies of our navy, or incurring the displeasure of European powers. We have simply to increase the duties on imported sugar, and at once have Cuba at our mercy, and at the same time strengthen one of the great agricultural interests of our own country.

V. PERRY ATWELL.

III.

THE DEATH INSTINCT IN ANIMALS.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW has given considerable space of late to discussing the instincts and reasoning powers of animals. One of the most interesting questions in this line of investigation is the question whether animals are subject to premonitions of impending death. It seems sometimes as if they could feel their mortal peril without any promptings of their five senses. I remember killing a cat once in my youth, when a second shot was necessary to finish it. As I leveled my gun at the wounded creature, she turned on me a look which I can still vividly recall, after the lapse of years. There was a dignity and a despair in her look that astonished me. She was an abject and wretched creature, to which death was a merciful kindness; but the terrible look of Death that she gave me haunted me for some time.

A gentleman of my acquaintance had a beautiful tortoise-shell cat of which he and his wife were very fond. For some reason or other they most reluctantly decided to kill it, and the gentleman went out to the barn and hunted up an axe and block suitable for the disagreeable operation. When he returned to the sitting-room, the big, lazy cat was lying on his wife's lap, purring contentedly. He started to pick it up, with perfect gentleness, as he had often done, but the cat suddenly shrank back from his grasp and, looking straight up into his face, gave a most unearthly howl, as of utter despair. Both the look and the cry were quite unlike anything that he or his wife had ever seen or heard. It seemed as if the creature were conscious of his intention. What mysterious sense told it of the axe and block awaiting it?

A case still more interesting, for which I can vouch, was that of a cow and her calf. The farmer who owned them kept the calf in his barn, but drove the cow off to a distant pasture every morning with the rest of the herd. She soon became reconciled to the arrangement, and was accustomed to feed quietly until it was time to return to her calf. One day the farmer killed the calf suddenly and painlessly. There was no outcry, no chance for the cow to see the deed. She was at a distance from the barn, which apparently precluded the possibility of her knowing what had been done. Yet no sooner was the calf dead, than she left her grazing with the rest of the herd and came up to the bars, lowing and showing every symptom of uneasiness. There she stayed from noon till milking time, moving about restlessly, as she had never done before. In this case the death instinct seems to have been interwoven with the subtle maternal instinct. There was no communication possible, so far as human senses could perceive, between mother and offspring; yet there is no doubt that the cow had at least some dim knowledge of what was going on, and that she suffered more than the calf did.

Probably other cases of this kind could be gathered together, if diligent inquiry were made. Such a collection would be of great value to the physiologist and psychologist.

ARTHUR MARK CUMMINGS.